

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 221353

42

ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 /014 R

66604

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:TSCULLY:LCW

11/13/73 EXT. 20333

APPROVED BY IO:DTELLEN

ARA/NC:MFORRESTER

----- 114034

O 131830Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221353

FOLLOWING SENT GABORONE BANGUI NICOSIA NDJAMENA QUITO  
ADDIS ABABA HELSINKI MONROVIA ACCRA REYKJAVIK TEHRAN  
ABIDJAN KINGSTON MASERU MEXICO KATHMANDU NIAMEY LAGOS  
ISLAMABAD KIGALI MADRID MBABANE LOME PORT OF SPAIN SAIGON  
OUAGADOUGOU INFO USUN NEW YORK FROM SECSTATE WASHDC  
09 NOV 73:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221353

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, UN

SUBJECT: LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE: INVITATION TO PRG

1. WE ESTIMATE HOST GOVTS OF ACTION ADDRESSEES MAY  
ABSTAIN DURING POSSIBLE VOTE IN UNGA WEEK OF NOVEMBER 12  
TO INVITE PRG-VN TO AZTEND LOS CONFERENCE. DEPT RE-  
QUESTS POSTS TO APPROACH HOST GOVTS URGENTLY AT HIGHEST  
APPROPRIATE LEVEL TO URGE NEGATIVE VOTE.

2. BACKGROUND. FIRST COMMITTEE OF UNGA ON OCTOBER 26  
ADOPTED RESOLUTION CALLING FOR CONVENING LAW OF SEA  
(LOS) CONFERENCE AND INVITING ALL MEMBERS OF UN AND  
SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, GUINEA-BISSAU, AND DRV. ANTICI-  
PAZED SOVIET REQUEST TO INVITE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONA-  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 221353

RY GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM(PRG) TO CONFERENCE

WAS NOT PRESSED TO VOTE IN COMMITTEE, IN PART BECAUSE OF INTENSIVE USUN AND JAPANESE LOBBYING. HOWEVER, FIRST COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTION MUST STILL BE CONFIRMED BY PLENARY AND WE BELIEVE SOVS AND/OR OTHERS WILL PRESS FOR INVITATION TO PRG AT THAT TIME.

3. INVITATION TO PRG WOULD BE CONTRARY TO OUR INTERESTS IN SE ASIA AND WOULD REPRESENT SERIOUS NEW TURN IN WILLINGNESS NON-ALIGNED TO USE VOTING STRENGTH IRRESPONSIBLY TO INJECT UN INTO INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES. ADDRESSEE POSTS SHOULD RAISE ISSUE OF POSSIBLE LOS INVITATION TO PRG AT HIGHEST LEVELS OF HOST GOVERNMENTS. UNLESS YOU BELIEVE SUCH APPROACH WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. YOU SHOULD DRAW UPON FOLLOWING ARGUMENTATION:

(A) DECISION BY GA TO INVITE PRG IN LOS CONFERENCE WOULD BE SERIOUS MATTER WHICH USG DOES, AND WE BELIEVE HOST GOVTS SHOULD, VIEW WITH GREAT CONCERN

(B) RRG IS NOT A STATE, IT IS A POLITICAL GROUP CLAIMING TO BE GOVT OF STATE. IF PRG WERE TO BE INVITED, ALL KINDS OF OTHER CLAIMANTS COULD LOGICALLY ALSO BE INVITED.

(C) PRG QUESTION HAS NO BUSINESS BEING DISCUSSED IN CONTEXT OF LOS CONFERENCE AND TO DO SO WOULD OF COURSE BE GROSS INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF SOUTH VIETNAM.

(D) THERE IS ONLY ONE SOUTH VIETNAM, AND UNDER VIENNA FORMULA, GVN, AS MEMBER OF UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, WILL BE AT LOS CONFERENCE. THEREFORE, PRG PARTICIPATION IS NOT QUESTION OF CREDENTIALS, I.E., WHO IS TO REPRESENT SOUTH VIETNAM. THOSE WHO ARE ADVOCATING AN INVITATION TO PRG ARE TRYING TO CREATE A UNIQUE SITUATION (AND INCIDENTALLY ONE WHICH MANY OF THEM OPPOSED IN THE CASE OF CHINA), OF TWO GOVTS TO REPRESENT ONE COUNTRY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 221353

4. IF YOU BELIEVE IT HELPFUL, YOU CAN POINT OUT THAT US HAS NOT OPPOSED AND IS NOT OPPOSING PARTICIPATION OF DRV (NORTH VIETNAM) AT THE LOS CONFERENCE, EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES WITH DRV. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THEY HAVE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS IN LAW OF THE SEA AND HAVE NOT OPPOSED HAVING THEM INVITED.

5. LATEST USUN SOUNDINGS INDICATE THAT UNDER CIRCUM-

STANCES PRIOR TO PRESENT CIRCULAR, PRG COULD BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN LOS CONFERENCE BY VOTE OF 45 IN FAVOR, 40 AGAINST, AND 45 ABSTENTIONS. OUR CURRENT ESTIMATE IS THAT UN DELEGATIONS OF HOST GOVTS WOULD ABSTAIN ON ANY SUCH VOTE. ACCORDINGLY, WE ARE PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS THAT YOU IMPRESS UPON HOST GOVTS IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH IN EACH CAST TO VOTE AGAINST IRRESPONSIBLE EFFORT TO POLITICIZE LOS CONFERENCE IN MANNER PREJUDICIAL TO ITS PURPOSES.

6. IN VIEW OF PROBABILITY UNGA WILL TAKE UP LOS ISSUE AS EARLY AS WEEK OF NOVEMBER 12, POSTS ARE URGED TO RAISE MATTER PROMPTLY, REPORTING TO DEPT INFO USUN.

7. FOR TEHRAN: DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IRANIAN PARTICIPATION IN ICCS DOES NOT PRECLUDE AN IRANIAN DECISION TO VOTE AGAINST INVITATION TO PRG. PARIS ACCORDS IN NO WAY ENVISION TWO SOVEREIGN STATES IN SOUTH VIETNAM. IRAN SHOULD FEEL UNFETTERED BY ITS PEACE-KEEPING ROLE IN SUPPORT OF PRINCIPLES CONTAINED PARAS B,C AND D ABOVE, PARTICULARLY SINCE POLAND AND HUNGARY HAVE NOT FELT CONSTRAINED TO AVOID PARTIALITY ON THIS ISSUE.

8. FYI: OF ADDRESSEE POSTS, TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, ECUADOR, ETHIOPIA, ICELAND, IRAN ISRAEL, MEXICO, AND SPAIN MAINTAIN FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM (GVN). BOTSWANA CAR, CHAD, CYPRUS, FIJI, GHANA, IVORY COAST, JAMAICA, LESOTHO, NIGER, NIGERIA, RWANDA, SWAZILAND, TOGO, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, AND UPPER VOLTA HAVE ACCEPTED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 221353

RECOGNITION FROM THE GVN BUT HAVE NOT FORMALLY ESTABLISHED RELATIONS WITH IT. FINLAND, NEPAL, AND PAKISTAN MAINTAIN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS NEITHER WITH THE GVN NOR WITH THE PRG. END FYI. RUSH

UNQUOTE RUSH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PFOR  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** martinml  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE221353  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** TSCULLY:LCW  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731135/aaaaazvh.tel  
**Line Count:** 159  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN IO  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** martinml  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13-Sep-2001 by freemaal>; APPROVED <13-Sep-2001 by martinml>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE: INVITATION TO PRG  
**TAGS:** PBOR, UN  
**To:** CARACAS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005